

No. 9068 號八十六零九第

日九十二月二十十年二十緒光

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, JANUARY 22ND, 1887.

六年禮

號二十二月正英港香

PRICE \$2 PER MONTH

INTIMATIONS.

ARRIVALS.

January 20, JOHANN, German steamer, 427, Binge, Hohow 18th January, General—WIELER & Co.

January 20, CYCLERS, British steamer, 1,345, H. Nish, London 2nd December, and Singapore 14th January, General—BUTTERFIELD & SWIPE.

January 21, ABERDEEN, Chinese steam-launch, J. W. Lowson, Amy 12th January.

January 21, AMY, British steamer, 814, Kohler, Wuhs 12th January, Rice—SIEMSEN & Co.

January 21, HALOONG, British steamer, 277, J. Rouch, Swatow 20th January, General—DOUGLAS LAPPAK & Co.

January 21, FOOKSANG, British steamer, 990, Hock, Whampoa 21st January, General—JARDINE, MATTHEWS & Co.

January 21, PEHA CHUA CHON KLAO, British steamer, 1,012, H. Lightwood, Bangkok 14th January, Rice and General—YUEN FAT HONG.

January 21, MEMLING, British steamer, 636, Oulton, Pegal and Cheribon 7th January, Sugar—JANDINE, MATTHEWS & Co.

January 21, PROFESSOR MOHN, Norwegian bark, 956, O. Jensen, Singapore 11th January, Timber—ORDER.

January 21, ALMANY, German steamer, 1,870, H. Baer, Shanghai 19th January, Mails and General—MEUCHINS & Co.

January 21, ESPRICE, British gunboat, A. R. Adams, Pratas Island 20th January.

January 21, CHASSEUR, French gunboat, Le Goret, Nagasaki 16th January.

January 21, PETING, British sloop, 654, Hennermann, Whampoa 21st January, General—SIEMSEN & Co.

CLEARANCES.

AT THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE.

21ST JANUARY.

Bormida, Italian str., for Singapore.

Triolo, German str., for Saigon.

Dentos, German str., for Bangkok.

Colombia, German ship, for London.

Theodo, Auger, German ship, for Havre.

DEPARTURES.

January 21, ALMANY, British steamer, for Yokohama.

January 21, GLUCKSBURG, German steamer, for Bangkok.

January 21, FERD, German str., for Saigon.

January 21, AMOT, British str., for Whampoa.

PASSENGERS ARRIVED.

Per Johann, str., from Hohow—20 Chinese.

Per Cyclops, str., from London, &—Mrs. Pinkney, and 150 Chinese, from Singapore.

Per Hailung, str., from Whampoa—23 Chinese.

Per Ira Chua Chon Kla, from Bangkok—15 Chinese.

Per Neher, str., from Shanghai—Dr. Neuhauer, Messrs. O. Anz, J. Rhom, R. Wortsman, L. W. Laidner, and 7 Chinese.

DEPARTED.

Per Tschere, str., from Hongkong—for Nagasaki—O. Cleare, For Yokohama—Messrs. M. Russell, Ball Raymond, and Shan Queen—From London—for Yokohama—Mrs. Muntan, Mr. Patterson, Mrs. Howwood's aman, and Mrs. Barrie's aman, Per Brindisi.

TO DEPART.

Per Mario, str., for Heipongh—Mr. Bleton, 23 Chinese and 2 Indians.

REPORTS.

The German steamer Necker, from Shanghai 18th January, reports had strong N.E. monsoon and high sea.

The British steamer Cyclops, from London 1st December, and Singapore 14th January, reports had moderate N.E. winds and fine weather.

The British steamer Amoy, from Whampoa 20th January, reports experienced moderate N.E. winds and overcast weather. Steamer in port Kowshing.

The British steamer Phoenix, from Hongkong 16th January, reports had light winds to Farsells; thence to port strong wind and high sea with thick, cloudy weather.

VESSELS ARRIVED AT DESTINATION FROM PORTS IN CHINA, JAPAN, AND MANILA.

(For last Month's Advice.)

Bellona (s.), Yokohama Nov. 25

Glenary (s.), Shanghai Nov. 25

Hector (s.), Shanghai Nov. 25

Eliza, Nikolson, Hongkong Nov. 27

Physician (s.), Hongkong Nov. 27

Galleys (s.), Yokohama Nov. 29

President Corbett, Manila Nov. 30

Port Jackson (s.), Yokohama Dec. 1

Lemnos (s.), Yokohama Dec. 1

Ningchow (s.), Shanghai Dec. 2

Port Sonachan (s.), Shanghai Dec. 2

VESSELS EXPECTED AT HONGKONG.

(Corresponding to Date.)

Lion (s.), New York Nov. 1

Glenfin (s.), Glasgow Nov. 19

Cardiff Nov. 19

Hemphill Nov. 24

Antwo (s.), London Nov. 27

Australind (s.), London Nov. 29

Mosor (s.), London Dec. 1

THEATRE ROYAL, CITY HALL.

THIS (SATURDAY) EVENING, the 22nd January, 1887.

THE GARRISON LILY MINSTRELS, will give their 22nd ENTERTAINMENT THIS SEASON.

Under the Distinguished Patronage of H. E. MAJOR-General CAMBRON, C.D., Commanding Troops China & Straits Settlements.

FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE ORPHAN CHILDREN OF THE LATE SERGEANT COOPERS, ROYAL ARTILLERY.

Bones—R. COLTON, Tumba—W. GEEVENS, Interceptor—E. STEVENSON.

Accompanist—Mr. GOULBURN.

ADMISSION:—

Dress Circle \$1.50

Reserved Stalls 1.00

Front Seats 0.50

Back Seats 0.20

Doors Open at 8.30, to commence at 9 P.M.

Tickets can be obtained at Messrs. KELLY & WALSH's, Limited, where Seats can be secured.

By kind permission of Colonel ANDERSON and Officers the Band of the Northamptonshire Regiment will play during the interval.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

Hongkong, 19th January, 1887.

INTIMATIONS.

ARRIVALS.

PIANO AND MUSIC DEPARTMENT.

—NEW MUSIC.

This Department has been greatly enlarged and is now, and will continue to be, one of our leading branches; our present stock is the largest and best assortured in China, and comprises—

ALL THE NEWEST SONGS, DUETS AND PART SONGS,

ALL THE LATEST DANCE MUSIC;

ALL THE MODERN DRAWING ROOM SOLOS AND DUETS.

Classical Music Sacred Music.

Folklore Music Violin Solos.

Standard Music Violin and Piano Duets.

Tutors' Exercises and Progressive pieces for beginners.

VOLUMES—Volumes of Songs, Volumes of Piano Solos, Volumes of Dance Music and Volumes of Classical Mu.

OPERAS—Vocal Scores, Piano Scores, Violin Scores.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL \$7,500,000.

RESERVE FUND \$4,500,000.

RESERVE FOR EQUALIZATION OF DIVIDENDS 200,000.

RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS 7,500,000.

COMMITTEE OF DIRECTORS—Chairman—A. McIVER, Esq.

Deputy Chairman—M. GROVE, Esq.

C. D. Bottomley, Esq.

H. F. Dauphin, Esq.

W. H. Dwyer, Esq.

Chief Manager—HONGKONG THOMAS JACKSON, Esq.

Acting Chief Manager—JOHN WALTER, Esq.

Shanghai—EWEN CAMERON, Esq.

London—BALFOUR, LONDON & COUNTY BANK.

HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED.

On Current Deposit Account at the rate of 2 per cent. per Annum on the daily balance of Fixed Deposits—

For 3 months 3 per Cent. per Annum.

For 6 months 4 per Cent. per Annum.

For 12 months 5 per Cent. per Annum.

Bank Discount Discounted.

Creditors granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Branches granted on London and the chief commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.

JOHN WALTER, Acting Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 28th August, 1886.

NOTICE.

RULES OF THE HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

1.—The business of the above Bank will be conducted by the HONGKONG and SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION on their premises in HONGKONG. Business hours on week-days, 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 1.

2.—Sum less than \$1, more than \$250 at one time will not be received. No depositor may deposit more than \$2,500 in any one year.

3.—Depositors in the Savings Bank having \$100 or more at their credit may at any time transfer the same to the HONGKONG and SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION on fixed deposit for 12 months at 1 per cent. per annum interest.

4.—Interest at the rate of 3/4 per cent. per annum will be allowed to Depositors on their daily balances.

5.—Each Depositor will be supplied gratis with a Pass-Book, which must be presented with each payment or withdrawal. Depositors must not make any entries themselves in their Pass-Books, but should send them to be written in at least twice a year about the beginning of January and again at July.

6.—Correspondence as to the business of the Bank if marked HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK BUSINESS is forwarded free by the various BRITISH POST OFFICES in HONGKONG and CHINA.

7.—Withdrawals may be made on demand, but the personal attendance of the Depositor or his duly appointed Agent, and the production of his Pass-Book are required.

8.—Perfected Lamps, Oil Colour Boxes, all sizes. Field Sketching Blocks.

Hostess and Gun Diary.

Manners Maketh Man by the author of "How to be happy the Married."

Routledge's New Pictorial National History.

Macmillan's Household Encyclopedia.

Edwards' Opera Guide.

Brussels Society, Tunbridge Wells.

India Society, London.

China Society, Hongkong.

Perfumed Lamps.

Quantities of new cheap Literature.

New Men's Calico Shirts, Kid Shoes with broad toes, Patent Leather Shoes and Pump.

Tennis Shoes, Tennis Rackets, Tennis Balls.

Perfume for Skin, Hair, cheap.

Wines & Spirits, Oil Colour Boxes, all sizes. Field Sketching Boxes.

Perfumed Lamps.

Quantities of new cheap Literature.

Artistic Drawings and Landscapes.

Drawing Room, Library and Dining Room Suites.

COMPLETE BED

INTIMATIONS.

DINNEFORD'S FLUID MAGNESIA.

The best Remedy for Acidity of the Stomach.

DINNEFORD'S FLUID MAGNESIA.

For Heartburn and Headache.

For Gout and Indigestion.

DINNEFORD'S FLUID MAGNESIA.

The best Mixture for delicate Constitutions, Ladies, Children, and Infants, and for regular use. Valid Clinics, DINNEFORD & CO., Chancery, London, and Druggists and Stoerkeepers throughout the World.

N.B.—Ask for DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.

Agents—A. S. Watson & CO., Hongkong.

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GUARANTEE OF INTIMATIONS.

LEA AND PERRINS' SAUCE.

The Original and Famous

WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE bears

the autograph signature of

LEA AND PERRINS' SAUCE.

Sole Wholesalers by the

Proprietors, Worcester, and

Crosse & Blackwell, London.

LEA AND PERRINS' SAUCE.

Of Grocers and Chemists

throughout the world.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED,

are now offering for Sale at greatly reduced

prices the remainder of their

SEASON'S STOCK.

OR

CHRISTMAS CONFECTIONERY.

Comprising—

CRYSTALLIZED FIGS,

APRICOTS, GREENGAGES, &c.

BOXED FRUITS, FIGS,

RAISINS, JORDAN ALMONDS,

ASSORTED FRENCH SWEETS,

CHOCOLATES, FANCY BOXES,

CRACKERS,

&c., &c.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED,

HONGKONG: DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, 14th January, 1887.

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NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications on Editorial matters should be addressed to "The Editor," and those of business "The Manager," and not to individuals by name.

Correspondents are requested to forward their name and address with communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not desired for a fixed period will be retained until countermanded.

Orders for extra copies of the Daily Press should be sent before 11 a.m. or the day of publication. After that hour the supply is limited."

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, JANUARY 22ND, 1887.

THE Post Office Ordinance, read a third time yesterday afternoon, gives to the Postmaster-General an effective monopoly of the postal business of the colony. He has hitherto had a nominal monopoly, but as there was no provision of law under which infringements of it could be punished it was practically no monopoly at all. The real question involved in the alteration is the control of Chinese correspondence. In his report for last year the Postmaster-General said:—"The time has perhaps arrived when something should be done to bring the Chinese correspondence transmitted to and from the Colony more under control. There can be no doubt that the revenue suffers serious loss from the smuggling of thousands of Chinese letters, not to Chinese ports where there is no national Post Office to receive them, but to San Francisco, Australia, the Straits Settlements, and other places where efficient Post Offices exist. The subject is surrounded with difficulties, and the sweeping measures so often advocated, besides being ruinously expensive, would make the Post Department here a nuisance and a hindrance to trade which would not be tolerated for a week. The function of a Post Office is to facilitate, not to hinder business. Proposals of a practical nature have, as you are aware, been submitted to the Government in this matter, and they are at present under consideration." That the revenue suffers serious loss from the fact of the bulk of the Chinese correspondence being conducted through private agencies and not passing through the Post Office is a fact beyond dispute. But then comes the question, has the Government a right to make a revenue out of all letters ought to be made to contribute to that revenue. But we think it will be generally admitted that the Government has no such right. The charge made for postage ought to be based upon simply a charge for services rendered, not as a tax, and, as the Hon. A. Lister says in the passage of his report quoted above, the function of a post office is to facilitate, not to hinder business. If the Chinese can conduct their correspondence more satisfactorily and economically to themselves without the aid of the legal Post Office, the matter must be looked at in all its bearings before the Government attempts to rigorously enforce the Postmaster-General's monopoly. A monopoly was first given to the English Post Office in the reign of CHARLES I, and the revenue to be derived therefrom probably influenced its establishment more than a desire to meet the public convenience. But in the present day the Post Office is no longer looked upon as an instrument of taxation. As a matter of fact it yields revenue, but that revenue is probably not more than would be charged by private individuals or companies for doing the same work, while the convenience to the public of having a single administration and a system regulated by law is much greater than any advantages which could be secured by handing over the work to private enterprise. In European countries a Governmental monopoly of postal business is undoubtedly to the public advantage, and, being for the public advantage, the Government has a logical right to suppress any competition which by infringing the monopoly might detract from the efficiency of the service. But the case is somewhat different where the proposal is that a British Post Office should assume control of Chinese correspondence. The Chinese have long possessed a very efficient postal system of their own, founded on the operations of private enterprise. They are to be compelled to accept what

in their case might be a great service, in order that the Government may draw a revenue from their correspondence, they will have well founded cause of complaint. That the service would be worse in many directions there can be no doubt. There is an as yet no Imperial Chinese Post Office to which letters could be handed for delivery in the interior of China, and under these circumstances the Hongkong Post Office would have to resort to the Chinese private postal agencies to execute such delivery. Correspondence for America, Australia, the Straits Settlements and other foreign countries where Chinese are to be found could be conveyed better, probably, by the established Post Office than by the Chinese postal agencies, but unless the Post Office is in a position to sweep the agencies completely out of existence, is it worth while to interfere with the existing state of things? The question of revenue ought to exercise little influence on the decision. The real question is whether the established Post Office can do the work more effectively than the existing private agencies. If it can, by all means let it take the business into its own hands, but if not, it will be better to leave it alone altogether. The matter is one for inquiry. Possibly an arrangement might come to, which would at once serve the public convenience and secure to the public revenue the profit of the Chinese postal service by entering into a contract with one of the principal agencies to take charge of all correspondence to and from all places in China other than Treaty Ports, while the Post Office itself took charge of the correspondence with foreign countries. Seeing that the smuggling of letters into the latter, to which Mr. LASER refers, is against the laws of those countries and renders the letters liable to seizure, it is needless to say that it would be to the interest of the Chinese themselves to avail of the facilities offered by the established Post Office in this branch of their correspondence.

Some interesting news will be found on our fourth page.

The British gunboat *Egypt*, Commander A. R. Adams, from Fratres Island 20th instant, arrived here yesterday.

The French gunboat *Chasseur*, Commander Le Gorre, arrived here yesterday from Nagasaki, which port she left on the 17th instant.

Commodore Moran paid a visit on board the French corvette *Principessa* yesterday afternoon, and a salute was fired from that vessel when he left.

We are requested to state that Mr. George Russell, of Bristol, will preach in the Union Chapel to-morrow (Sunday) morning during the service commencing at 11 o'clock.

By kind permission of Captain Havener, Divine Service will be held to-morrow, at eleven o'clock, on board the American barque *Hayden Brown* by the Rev. A. G. Goldsmith, Seaman's Chaplain. The Bethel fire will be hoisted.

In the United States consumed 954,000 lbs. of opium. In 1880 the consumption had increased to 533,451 lbs. Of course, says the *Alta California* these figures are on the drug that passed the Customs House and paid duty. As much more was smuggled.

We would remind our readers of the entertainment to be given this evening at the Theatre Royal, City Hall, by the Garrison Lily Minstrels, for which a capital programme has been drawn up. The performance is on behalf of a charitable object of a kind to enlist general support.

We are requested to state that should the French mail arrive later than 7 p.m. on Sunday, the correspondence will not be sent out, on account of the Chinese New Year holiday, but must be called for. The Post Office will be open any day circumstances from 10 to 12 on Monday, or earlier if the French mail arrives at daylight.

According to a table published by the *Chinese Recorder and Missionary Journal* there were on the 31st December last 431 mail foreign Missionaries working in China, 309 wives and 149 single women, making a total of 889. The number of native ordained ministers was 134, of unordained native helpers 1,164, and of adult communicants 28,119. The number of pupils in missionary schools was 3,864.

Two more heats of the match for the Lawn Tennis Championship were played off on Thursday afternoon, both of which were well contested. W. Bruce Robertson beat G. S. Coxon with little to spare, the score being 8—6, 6—4. The other heat was almost as close. A. G. C. Scanlan beating G. Stewart. The score was 6—4, 5—7, 6—4. These two completed the second series of matches.

The influence of Christianity on the upper classes in Japan is, says the *Chinese Recorder and Missionary Journal*, increasing all the time. A former Governor of Tokushima, who is a member of the Christian Church, and the Rev. Mr. H. C. Williams, the Professor of Political Economy in the University, and a daughter of the vice-Postmaster-General are members.

The local agents (The Far East Company) of the Standard Life Assurance Company have forwarded to us a capital betting diary for 1887 issued by that enterprising Assurance Company. On the front cover is a neat little calendar with a palm tree for background, the title of the Company and, in the right corner *Atlas* with the world on his shoulders and the inscription "Established 1823" across the globe. The other cover is adorned with a map of the Far East, showing the Bosphorus Sea to Singapore.

The British Consul-General at Shanghai has issued the following notification at that port:

H. M.'S. CONSULATE-GENERAL,
Shanghai, 17th January, 1887.

For the information of the British Merchants Community, the undersigned states that he has agreed to the effect that the Additional Article of the Choo Choo Agreement will come into force on the 1st February.

J. F. Huxley, Consul-General.

By kind permission of Colonel Anderson and the Officers of the 2nd Northamptonshire Regiment, their regimental band will play at the following times to-morrow, the 23rd January, from 3.30 p.m. The following is the programme:

March..... "Fancy Free"..... Smith
Mazurka..... "Excelsior"..... Marconi
Etcetera..... "Grand Mogul"..... Audran
Valse..... "Fairy Queen"..... E. L. C. Smith
Valse..... "Forest Del"..... E. N. Quist
Valse.....

The Tibetan correspondence of the *Daily News* writes:—"Mr. Yu Chao (Wu Ting-fang) has got promotion for his share in the transfer of Poh-tung. The new ground is marked out, building material is being contracted for, part of the money has been paid. And thus comes to an end a most vexed and troublesome business." The Imperial Government has pleased that the great and eminent man whose opinion they valued. This foretold of the different departments were present and were congratulated on the efficiency of their respective details. We noticed amongst the guests present the Hon. H. G. Thomsett, Capt. Rumsey, Col. Anderson, Messrs. D. Gillies, John S. Brewer (Government Marine Surveyor), Arthur Wagner, Capt. Talbot, Phipham, and Col. Miles. Andrew Johnson, Gov. Alden, James, Boyd, &c., &c.

According to the *Shen-pao* the Taung Li family has communicated to the Chinese Minister of Peking that the British Officer is bound to protect persons travelling in Yunnan, they should be allowed to travel through that region which borders on Yunnan, Burma and Annam, where the natives are extremely lawless and wild beasts abound, and if anything should happen to foreigners who persist in travelling through that region, the Chinese Government cannot be held responsible, as no Imperial soldiers are stationed there.

The *Chinese Recorder and Missionary Journal*, referring to Sir Rutherford Alcock's recent article regarding the assumption of political dignity and ceremony by Roman Catholic ecclesiastics, says the article brings to mind particularly Mr. Pope Hennessy's speech on the subject. The Pope, in his speech to the Clergy of the Diocese of Liverpool, said:—"I am a Catholic, but, as I am a Catholic, I am, it is said, addressed to the Pope, bringing him to moderate the pretensions of Roman Catholic clerics to political power and state. The Pope in turn addressed the Bishop of his church in this country, urging them to avoid raising prejudices and making trouble by these practices; but they, it is said, replied that they could not think of all abstaining from such claims and pretences. It is evident that the end of the affair has not yet been reached."

On the occasion of Sir William Robinson's special mission to Siam, in 1878, when Governor of the Straits Settlements, His Majesty the King conferred on His Excellency the decoration of the Grand Cross of the Crown of Siam; but at that time the Foreign Office regulations were such that Sir William Robinson was promoted from the rank of Major to Lieutenant-Colonel. The Foreign Office, however, (says the *Standard*) accepted the order of wearing the insignia of the rank of Major, and Sir William Robinson, in consequence, was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. The Club went in, and when the stamps were down, they had rattled up 73 for the loss of our wicked Travellers, who made 32 in good style, when he was caught by Lloyd.

Subjoined is the score so far:

The Hu-pan states that a native Post Office in Szechow has given \$200 to a certain carpenter, who has invented a boat propelled by machinery, which can run 50 lbs. on a smooth water. The boat, which is now nearly completed, measures 24 feet long, 5 feet wide, and draws three feet of water, and it will be principally used for carrying mails. The said carpenter has invented and made every part of the boat himself, and it will no doubt be extensively used in the interior, as no Imperial soldiers are stationed there.

The *Chinese Recorder and Missionary Journal*, referring to Sir Rutherford Alcock's recent article regarding the assumption of political dignity and ceremony by Roman Catholic ecclesiastics, says the article brings to mind particularly Mr. Pope Hennessy's speech on the subject. The Pope, in his speech to the Clergy of the Diocese of Liverpool, said:—"I am a Catholic, but, as I am a Catholic, I am, it is said, addressed to the Pope, bringing him to moderate the pretensions of Roman Catholic clerics to political power and state. The Pope in turn addressed the Bishop of his church in this country, urging them to avoid raising prejudices and making trouble by these practices; but they, it is said, replied that they could not think of all abstaining from such claims and pretences. It is evident that the end of the affair has not yet been reached."

The following Bills were, on the motion of the ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the COLONIAL SECRETARY, read a first time:—An Ordinance for the Suppression of Crimes, and an Ordinance for the further security of the Residents of the Colony from personal violence and other Crimes. He moved that these orders be adjourned until the next meeting of Council.

BUSINESS POSTPONED.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that in the Orders of the Day mention was made of the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance for the more effective Prevention of Crimes, and a Bill entitled an Ordinance for the further security of the Residents of the Colony from personal violence and other Crimes. He moved that these orders be adjourned until the next meeting of Council.

THE POST OFFICE BILL.

The COLONIAL TREASURER moved the third reading of the Post Office Bill.

The ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded. Hon. P. BYRNE.—Before this Bill is passed I should like to say that the clause which creates a new rate of duty on imports of tobacco, which we have to pay, is unnecessary. We propose to impose an additional duty on tobacco which we believe to be excessive, and that in England it takes the course of a suit in chancery. I don't see why we should have this penalty here any more than in England.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that this Bill is intended to regulate the carrying and possession of arms.

THE STATUTE LAW REVISION BILL.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance for promoting the Revision of Statute Law by royal assent.

He moved that the Statute Law Revision Bill be passed.

THE CRICKET BILL.

The following Bills were, on the motion of the ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the COLONIAL SECRETARY, read a first time:—An Ordinance for the Suppression of Crimes, and an Ordinance for the further security of the Residents of the Colony from personal violence and other Crimes.

THE LIBRARY BILL.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Law respecting Depository Books and Banks.

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THE LIBRARY BILL.

of prison workshops, remain as before. They have already been pointed out by me at length, and need not be repeated. I need only again record my opinion that a really satisfactory deterrent and reformatory Prison discipline cannot be established without the introduction of the separate system and suitable workshops.

7.—On the 30th March last, I made a pressing representation to Government on the over-crowding state of the Gaol, and the subject was fully entered into. Col. G. Goldsmith, then the Honorable E. J. Adcock was Chairman. Their Report, dated 1st June, 1886, submitted several recommendations, which have in part been carried out, and are, I understand, in part still under the consideration of Government, but no material relief to the congested state of the Gaol has as yet been experienced, and the danger of disease, and the danger of more commotion and rioting, present themselves to Prison officers which I pointed out as due to the overcrowding in associated wards, now exists in a full force as ever.

8.—Notwithstanding the limited and inconvenient space, an extra room for grass-mat making and an extra room for coat-mat making have been put up for work during the year. This not only increases the number of prisoners interested in industrial work, but adds to the profits of the Gaol.

PRISONERS AND THEIR DISCIPLINE.

9.—In the previous year's Report I expressed an opinion that Chinese convicts were as amenable to discipline and disposed to be well conducted as those of most other races. The experience of another year has confirmed me in this view.

The number of Prison offences reported during the year has been great, compared with those of English Prisons, but this, as formerly reported, is in a great measure due to the enforced association of prisoners by day and night, at meals, at labour and in sleeping, and also though in a less degree than formerly, to want of training and experience in Prison Officers.

To the present year shows a slow but steady and surely increasing tendency.

In 1885, with an average number of 530 prisoners, 6,473 Prison offences were reported, giving an average number of something over 12 Prison offences a year for each prisoner. In 1886, with a daily average of 674 prisoners, 7,192 offences were reported, giving an average number of a little over 10 offences, a year for each prisoner. This indicates a steady increase in the number and nature of Prison offences.

For increasing strictness in this respect has been the steady rule during the year. But it is not only satisfactory to observe a reduction in the average number of Prison offences, but still more satisfactory to observe that the general experience of the regiments of a judicious Prison discipline have been maintained.

10.—While there is a proportionate reduction, as compared with last year, of every kind of Prison offence, this reduction is most apparent in the grave Prison offences.

11.—The inevitable temptation of prisoners, in constant association, talk is difficult to overcome. The offences under this head in 1885 were 2,132; to a daily average of 530 prisoners amounted to a small fraction, about 4 offences per day. In 1886, these offences were 2,659, to a daily average of 674 prisoners, and amounted to a small fraction under 4 offences per man per annum.

12.—The other grave offences, such as assaults, acts of violence or insubordination, obtaining tobacco or opium, show a marked diminution.

13.—During the year 7 cases of insubordination, acts of violence or of Obeying the Orders of the Gaol were tried as capital offences in 1885. Of these 6 offenders were awarded corporal punishment and one was awarded additional imprisonment by the Police Magistrate. The cases of prisoners assaulting and fighting with each other show a fair actual and considerable proportional reduction. Nine of these cases were tried by the Superintendent and a Visiting Justice; eight of these offenders were awarded corporal punishment, and one received additional imprisonment. Another case was compromised with a hearing tried in the Supreme Court. The remaining cases of assaulting and fighting were not serious and were in fact mostly squabbles over food or work.

14.—The reduction in the number of offences of having tobacco or opium is a most marked feature during the past year. This may due to the earnest and watchful vigilance of the Prison Officers. The ingratitude of prisoners and their friends, as exercised in the efforts to pass in these narcotics, is very great, and constant vigilance is necessary.

15.—In my Report for 1885, I detailed the steps adopted with this view. The tobacco introduced during the year has chiefly been brought in by the chain-gang, and by far the greater number of these offences are for secreting and bringing in of cigarettes packed up in the road or at work.

16.—In my Report of 1885, I adverted to the risk of possible conspiracies, with so many convicts living in association. This year has not without its experiences in this respect. A conspiracy was made to set fire to the Gaol, in hopes of effecting an escape in the confusion. The attempt was frustrated, ample information having been obtained from members of this society, it is true, but the plot was discovered. Other business prisoners who are not unwilling to give information, provided they are not called on to give evidence in a Court which would expose them to the vengeance of the illegal societies.

17.—Prison discipline during the year 1886 is, in my opinion, made steady and satisfactory progress, and much related to prison officers, than to the men themselves, for the sake of comparison the statistics of 1884 and 1885. In the return showing prisoners previously convicted, it will be observed that in 1885, 32 per cent of prisoners confined on the last day of the year were old offenders as against 35 per cent in 1884.

LABOUR ON PUBLIC WORKS AND INDUS- TRIAL LABOUR.

18.—A chain of public works has been working during the year under the orders of the Surveyor-General on Public Works. It has generally consisted of about 90 men. During the year 1885 and in previous years the work of the chain-gang had not given satisfaction. The men had been allowed extra food, and had not apparently been kept to much hard work by the officers in charge. In consequence of this, it is hoped of shortly obtaining sufficient evidence to prosecute the intending incendiaries. As a full report on this subject was submitted to Government at the time, it seems unnecessary to enter into details here. The desperadoes concerned in such attempts are generally members of the Triad Society. It is very difficult to get any information from members of this society, although it is true that the members of the Triad Society are often not unwilling to give information, provided they are not called on to give evidence in a Court which would expose them to the vengeance of the illegal societies.

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22.—The other industrial work carried on in the Gaol has, the whole, been as satisfactory as the limited space for workshops would allow. Considering the great added range of work to be done, the Committee have had to apply for a large amount of work to be done. The result has been satisfactory. The Surveyor-General has assured me that during the past year the work done by the chain-gang has been satisfactory and valuable.

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24.—I append an abstract showing the actual profits or savings to Government in ten different industries carried on in the Gaol. The total profit for the year amounts to \$3,949.66.

25.—I have also recently commenced a new industry. Instead of purchasing the plated and mugs for the prisoners' food, and for the work done by the chain-gang, I have procured old kerosene oil tins and commenced making the plated and mugs in Gaol. In next Annual Report this will be shown as a profitable industry.

26.—I will only offer a few short remarks on prison industry.

27.—Owing to the fact that in the previous year there has been the most profitable industry, but it has the drawback that in doing this work the prisoners cannot be sold to be learning trade. The demand is also limited and storage of picked oakum is dangerous. The surplus now on hand will therefore shortly be sold by auction.

28.—Coir Yarn.—Another item has been start-

ed during the year, and the work has gone on well, the output has been more than doubled and the profitably doubled.

29.—Batten Work.—This work has been steadily progressing, but the sale has as yet been limited.

30.—Net-making.—This work is only carried on when orders are received. The amount of work done has been less than in the previous year.

31.—Gardening.—This work has been added and is working steadily, and the work done is more than triple that of the previous year.

32.—Washing.—A strict account of this industry has been kept this year, for the first time, and it appears that, charging for washing at only half the usual rate in Hongkong (one cent per piece) a very profitable saving has been realized.

33.—Carpentry.—is almost entirely confined to wood done for the Gaol.

34.—Tailor Shop.—The work in this shop has been considerably extended. The uniform clothing of the Gaol Officers was this year, made up in the Gaol, but under considerable difficulties, and a certain amount of free labour from outside had to be hired to complete the work. I do not think this should be tried again, unless the officer in charge understood the business of tailoring.

35.—Shoe-making.—This trade has been very successfully enlarged. All the boots and shoes made for Prison Officers have been made very well indeed. The number of prisoners interested in this industry has increased, and been greatly, compared with those of English Prisons, but this, as formerly reported, is in a great measure due to the enforced association of prisoners by day and night, at meals and in sleeping, and also though in a less degree than formerly, to want of training and experience in Prison Officers.

36.—To the present year shows a slow but steady and surely increasing tendency.

37.—In 1885, with an average number of 530 prisoners, 6,473 Prison offences were reported, giving an average number of something over 12 Prison offences a year for each prisoner. In 1886, with a daily average of 674 prisoners, 7,192 offences were reported, giving an average number of a little over 10 offences, a year for each prisoner. This indicates a steady increase in the number and nature of Prison offences.

38.—Printing.—has been done for Public Offices and some money has been realised for book-binding.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

39.—The most important suggestion I have to offer to the Government is that immediate steps should be taken to introduce the separate system at least as regards long sentence prisoners, and to increase the space for workshops and industrial labour.

Unless this is done, no really efficient deter-

rent and reformatory Gaol discipline can be established on a firm basis. As the building of a new Gaol seems unlikely to be undertaken for a long time to come, the best way is to make the existing buildings available for the use of long sentence prisoners.

40.—Also, a strict account of this industry has been kept this year, for the first time, and it appears that, charging for washing at only half the usual rate in Hongkong (one cent per piece) a very profitable saving has been realized.

41.—The Gaol is as now so greatly over-crowded, I think the Government might take into consideration the case of the large number of men in the Gaol, who are confined for long sentences for good behaviour. I am not allowed to make these men work. They are well fed and live comfortably as associated idleness. I brought this subject to notice in paragraph 21 of my Report for 1885. I am sorry to say, I believe many of these men rather like their servants, and will not find security even when released, if compelled to go to the criminal classes, who are freed from the obligation of performing any labour whatever beyond cleaning their own cells. 479 men were imprisoned during the year for want of finding security.

42.—Per steamship *Glenayre*, sailed on the 19th January.—For New York—175 bales wool, 47 bales camel hair, 15 bales skins, 6 packages chinaware, 2,911 packages tea, 13 packages mercandise, 5,000 pieces cotton, 100 pieces cotton, 1,000 pieces silk, 180 packages cor-ruke, 100 packages raw silk, 4,637 rolls matting, 250 packages tea, 65 bales 150 bags galloons, 150 packages canes, 300 boxes cassia buds, 2 packages chinaware, 6,217 packages tea, and 423 packages merchandises.

43.—Per American schooner *Haroldina*, sailed on the 18th January.—For New York—175 bales wool, 47 bales camel hair, 15 bales skins, 6 packages chinaware, 2,911 packages tea, 13 packages mercandise, 5,000 pieces cotton, 100 pieces cotton, 1,000 pieces silk, 180 packages cor-ruke, 100 packages raw silk, 4,637 rolls matting, 250 packages tea, 65 bales 150 bags galloons, 150 packages canes, 300 boxes cassia buds, 2 packages chinaware, 6,217 packages tea, and 423 packages merchandises.

44.—Per steamer *Glengyle*, sailed on the 19th January.—For London—5 cases silk-piece

45.—would also repeat my suggestion that the remission of sentence should be placed by legislative enactment (as in England) under Police supervision, so that, if found returning to a criminal career, they might at once be sent back by the Magistrates to prison.

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47.—The over-crowding of the Gaol might also lead to some other results, such as increased remission of sentence should be placed by legislative enactment (as in England) under Police supervision, so that, if found returning to a criminal career, they might at once be sent back by the Magistrates to prison.

48.—The other grave offences, such as assaults, acts of violence or insubordination, obtaining tobacco or opium, show a marked diminution.

49.—During the year 7 cases of insubordination, acts of violence or of Obeying the Orders of the Gaol were tried as capital offences in 1885. Of these 6 offenders were awarded corporal punishment and one was awarded additional imprisonment by the Police Magistrate. The cases of prisoners assaulting and fighting with each other show a fair actual and considerable proportional reduction. Nine of these cases were tried by the Superintendent and a Visiting Justice; eight of these offenders were awarded corporal punishment, and one received additional imprisonment.

50.—Another case was compromised with a hearing tried in the Supreme Court. The remaining cases of assaulting and fighting were not serious and were in fact mostly squabbles over food or work.

51.—The reduction in the number of offences of having tobacco or opium is a most marked feature during the past year. This may due to the earnest and watchful vigilance of the Prison Officers. The ingratitude of prisoners and their friends, as exercised in the efforts to pass in these narcotics, is very great, and constant vigilance is necessary.

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THE RAVAGES OF THE YELLOW FEVER.

CUT-TAN-PU, 28th December.

The great undertaking of the winter, that far, at all previous, has been the plague, now continuing in regard to the Yellow Fever. Captain it is safe to say that China's "Soever" should be concentrated in this province of Shantung, still to live at the upper managers, or in fact at any of the managers of the affair, there would appear no great sign of sorrow. It is the poor country class living by the banks of the river, who suffer, to whom the fever avails itself from forced labor, affecting their health, in the course of a tour of duty. Some of the principal departments of the Government, and previous conservative ministries, Tsinan, Ningpo, Ansan and Cochinchina, it is true cost a great amount of money. Even Algoria does not yet pay its own expenses. The augmentation of the navy for this year includes the putting on the stocks of three cruisers of the type called "Dumy de L'Isle," six ironclads, one gunboat, and two monitors, all of which are proposed up to day, and if the Chinese will not accept, may be required; and if Harvard follows Mr. Greenleaf's desire, the college will have to copy it in oil and hang upon its walls.

Harvard College gets nearly \$500,000 by the Board of Public Works, has caused a rise of from \$40,000,000 to \$130,000,000 in the same time. But it is useless to multiply examples of an increase of expenditure that runs through all departments. The expense is in certain lights to be considered as absolute, and the amount of money spent by the Chinese Government on the construction of the public works, and the maintenance of the necessities of life, he had a great desire to be immortalized by Harvard. That was his chief ambition in life. When it became known, a short time ago, that his days on earth were very few, he expressed a desire to have his photograph taken. His wife was gratified, and the photograph was sent to him, and he kept it up in his room, and the photograph will accompany the request; and if Harvard follows Mr. Greenleaf's desire, the college will have to copy it in oil and hang upon its walls.

It is not surprising that every one is asking when the end of all this excessive expenditure or extravagance will come. When are we to look for the last straw? — S. F. Chronicle.

OLLA PODRIDA.

Mo. Leases has given \$200,000 for Government land along the line of the Suez Canal to be used in the work of widening the waterway.

Sir Charles Dilke is the one man directly thankful for the Cohn Campbell scandal. In him it is like the shadow of a bracket of whitewash.

The Chilean Supreme Court has decided that the full value of the Peruvian men-of-war, *Huscar* and *Pucara*, and the torpedo-boat *Guadalca*, as well as of several other vessels captured in the recent war between Chile and Peru, shall be divided among the ships of the Chilean Squadron and not given to two special vessels which made the captures.

"Why do we always wear wedding and engagement rings on the fourth finger?" asked one of the people, and the jeweler replied, "that they were about to be married." Another said, "I am a trooper of the guard, and the hand of the woman I love is always on my heart." It was shown to a party of friends, and it is beyond all question, a stone of wonderful magnitude and beauty. It is still partially imbedded in the native "opal rock" as it is called, but this has been roughly chipped off on three sides, and the magnificence of its white, blue, and yellow colors is now fully visible when it is held up to the light.

"Using dredges, dredge out the river; make the embankments; restrain the water; attack the sand," such is the plan of action for today. And yet in plenty of places the river bed is higher than the adjoining country, and the water runs along like a thread. Next year will tell more. — N. C. Daily News Correspondent.

WHEN WILL THE END COME?

How long will the principal empires of Europe be able to stand the strain, whether they are subjected to the maintenance of their immense armaments? France must keep pace with Germany. Neither can any war measure taken by the other without an effort to do something a little more effective. The great navy of England has a decided national claim to existence, and can no longer be regarded as a mere ornament to the British Empire.

A correspondent of the St. Louis *Obit-Deutsche*, referring to Gen. Beaure's account of how the French are compelled to maintain their armaments, says that the Queen Victoria is a match for the Emperor of Austria, and that she would be a dangerous enemy for England on the ocean.

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